



Presentation from
**2016 World Water
Week in Stockholm**

www.worldwaterweek.org

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A scenic view of a city skyline with mountains in the background and a large yellow building with a red roof in the foreground. The text is overlaid on the image.

Addressing Urban Water Risk

Partnerships for Sustainable Forest Management

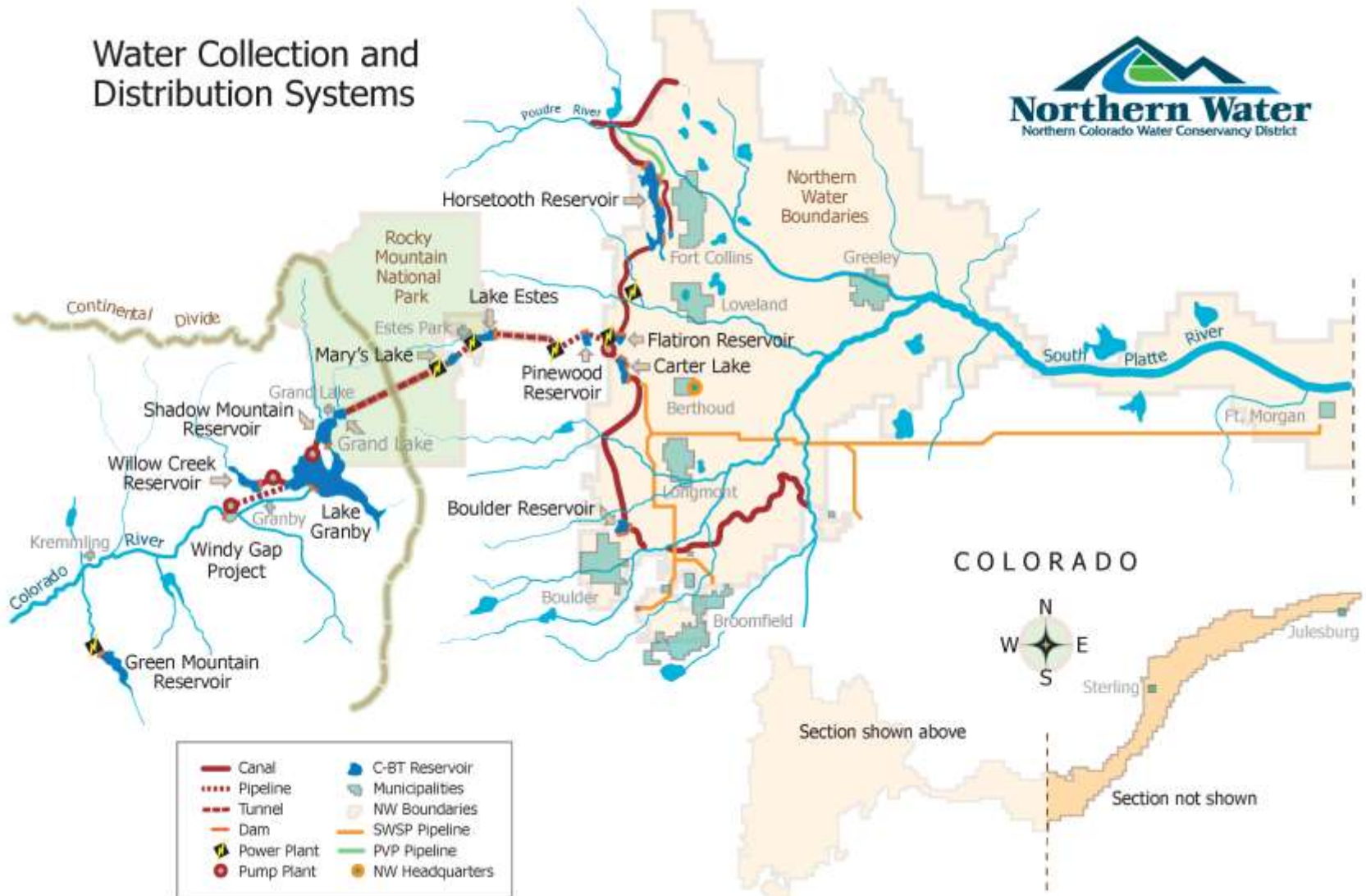
Jan Cassin, Forest Trends
Forests, Water, and Sustainable Growth of Cities
World Water Week, Stockholm
August 28, 2016

Front Range Cities / West Slope Water

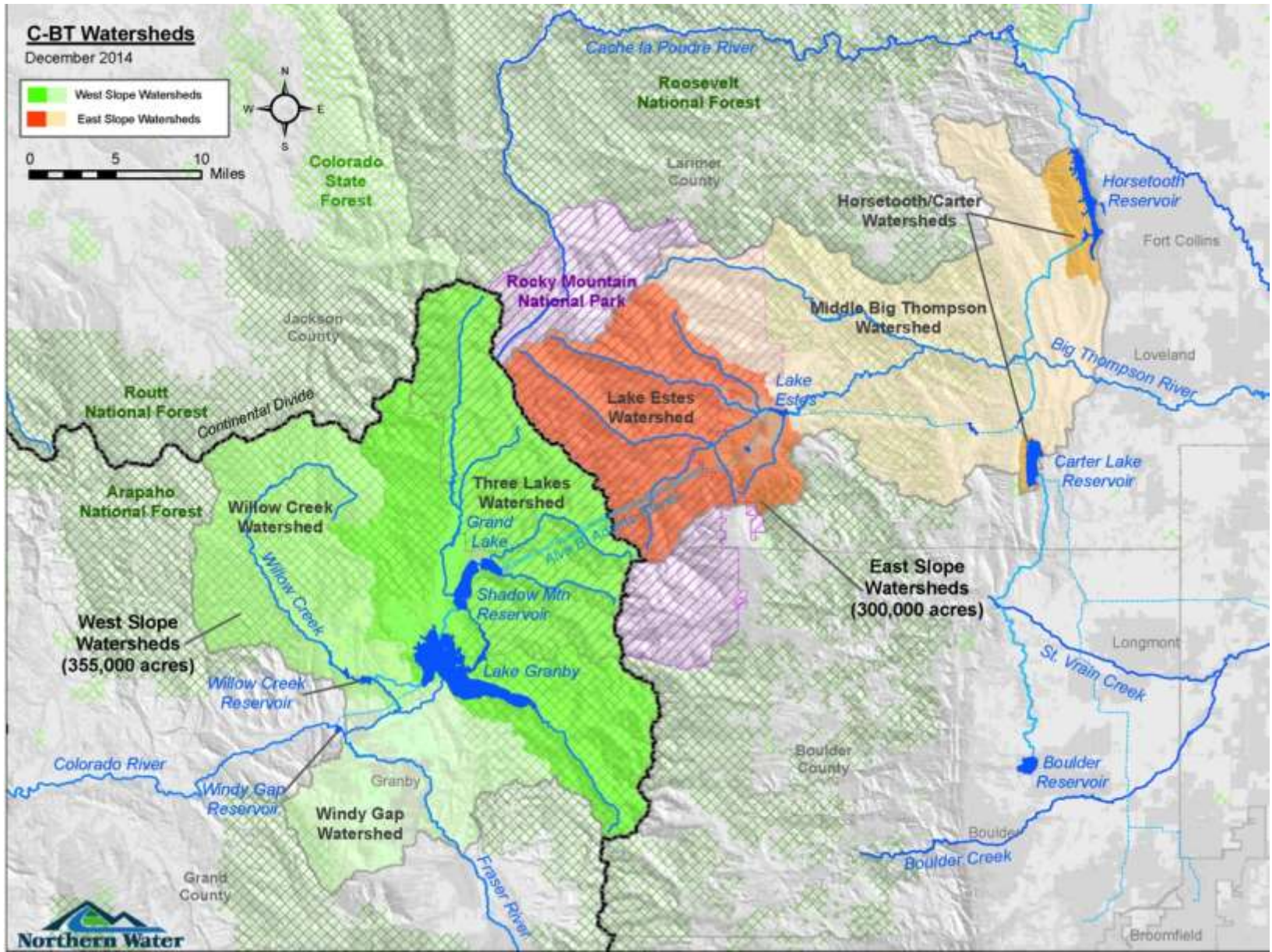


Northern Water – Colorado-Big Thompson Project

Water Collection and Distribution Systems



Forest Ownership – Source Watersheds



Large, high intensity fires
increasing across the western US



Wildfire Risks to Water

- Erosion, sedimentation
 - Lost storage in reservoirs, dredging costs
 - Overwhelm treatment plants, increase treatment costs
- Hazardous debris flows
- Water quality
 - Sediment
 - Nutrients
 - Heavy metals
- Damage to water infrastructure
 - Flooding
 - Turbine damage - hydropower

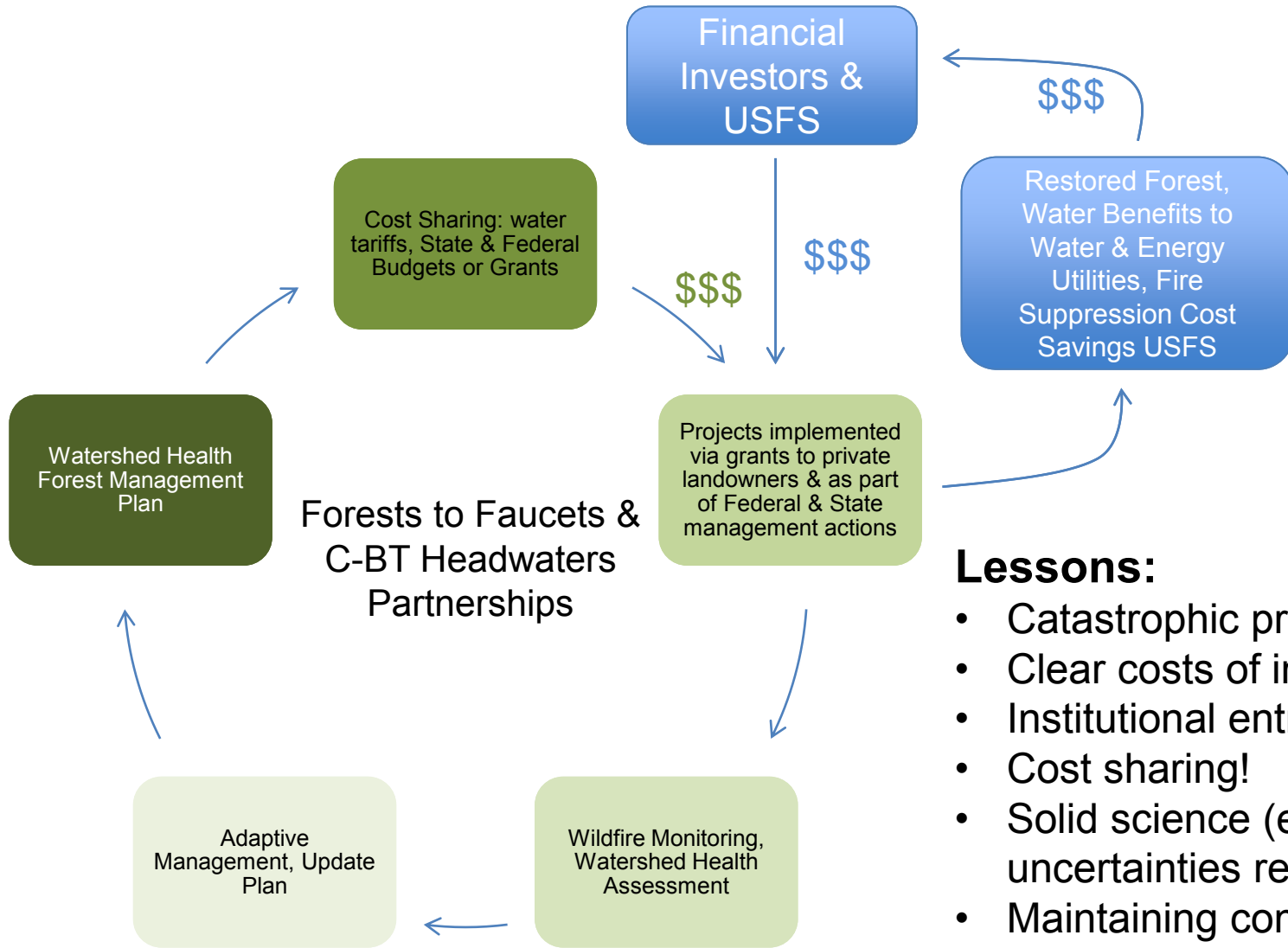


New partnerships for managing water risks from wildfires

- Colorado-Big Thompson Headwaters Partnership
- Denver Water – USFS Forests to Faucets
- Restore forest health:
 - Thinning and fuels reduction
 - Prescribed burns
 - Reforestation



Emerging Model in CA – Blue Forest Conservation



Lessons:

- Catastrophic precipitating event
- Clear costs of inaction
- Institutional entrepreneurs
- Cost sharing!
- Solid science (even if uncertainties remain)
- Maintaining commitments in face of uncertainty
- Broadening the base of beneficiaries



Questions?

Thank You

Collaborators & Supporters: Genevieve Bennett, Heidi Huber-Stearns, Gena Gammie, Carlos Quintela, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

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